(b) to (f) **Cooperation Opportunities**

Name of the Country	Country-wise details and Agreement Signed
1. Bahrain	To address NRI conference from 1st to 2nd Nov., '96.
2. Dubai	To inaugurate "Expo India - 1996" from 6th to 7th Dec., 96.
3. China	Led the High powered Chief Executive Officers Mission sponsored by Confederation of India Industry (15th Sept. to 19th Sept.)
4. Hongkong	Addressed the gathering of the Indian Chambers of Commerce (20th Nov., '96)
5. Brussels	Indo-EU investment and Trade Cooperation Forum on 25-26 November, 1996. Economic Cross-cultural Agreement between India and European Commission was signed.
6. Zeneva	To participate in the High Level Segment of the 43rd Session of the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board on foreign direct investment on 10th October, 1996.
7. Brazil	For inaugurating the exclusive Indian Exhibition in Sau Paulo (3—7 Nov., '96)
8. USA	Attend the Meeting of Indo-US Commercial Alliance (15—18 Oct., 1996) for taking a meeting of the representatives of the PSUs/Boards of the Ministry of Commerce on 8th Nov., 1996.
9. Sinagpore	First Ministerial Conference of World Trade Organisation. (9—13 Dec., '96)
10. Kazakhstan	To inaugurate the exhibition organised by ITPO 8th to 13th October, 1996.
11. Bulgaria	Agreement signed on Trade and Economic Co-operation with Bulgaria at New Delhi on 4.12.96.
12. Kenya	For attending 'Made in India show' arranged by Confederation of Indian Industries at Nairobi from 14th to 16th August, 1996.

Economic cooperation with other countries has been the constant endeavour of the Government. In a fast integrating world it is important to establish partnership with other countries to that India can derive economic advantage in its efforts at maximising exports & developing the economy. Strong links have been established both at the bilateral level with various countries, as well as at the multilateral level & with important groupings like the European Union. ASEAN etc. SAPTA is fast becoming an important instrument for liberalising trade within the SAARC region. Apart from this, the Govt. has cleared 380 proposals involving foreign investment valued at around US $ 5 billion.

National and International Trade Fairs Organised by ITPO

920. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the national and international trade fairs organised and hosted by the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation during 1996-97; and

(b) the expenditure incurred and income generated by ITPO for organising the trade fairs during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) ITPO participated in

21 fairs/exhibitions abroad during 1996-97 till January'97 viz. Nairobi Int'l Fair; Tehran Int'l Fair; IFMA Cologne; SAIL Food Fair Paris; S. Arabia Int'l Fair; SAITEX johannesburg; Quang Trieng Int'l Fair; Dakar Int'l Fair; Royal Auckland; Carribean Expo Sapin; Asia Leather Fair Hongkong; Living Exh. Tel Aviv; Hardware Shoe Chicago; Taipei Int'l Fair Taiwan; Pret-A-Porter Paris; Semaine Du Cuir Paris; Budapest Int'l Fair; Heimtextile Frankfurt; Domatex Hannover; including two Indian Exhibitions in Kazakhistan and Brazil.

Apart from above, ITPO organised 5 Buyers-Sellers Meets; 6 Specialised Fairs and Indian Product Fair abroad.

ITPO also organised 10 fairs in India viz. Consumexh; Delhi Book Fair; Mystique India; Shoe Fair; Shoe Compl. IITF'96; NCF; Winter Show; Tex Style and Leather Fair, and 22 fairs were also hosted by ITPO in Pragati Maidan, which are Sports Show; Car Display; Garments Fair; Fantasy Fair; World Poultry; Health & Medicare; Power Gen; Air-Conditioners Kits & Components; Home Computer; Metallurgy Int'l; Jewellery Shoe; Yoga Festival; IT India/ Comdes; Broadcast; Gartex; Petrotech; Motor Show; Finanstreet; Fantasy Fair; Inside Outside Show; Garment Fair and Handicrafts Fair.

(b) During the above period, an expenditure amounting to Rs. 2135 lakhs has been incurred and a total income to the tune of Rs. 4143 lakhs has been generated by ITPO through organisation of trade fairs.

Export and Import of Wheat and Rice

921. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:
SHRIMAT ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of rice and wheat exported from the country during the last 6 months; and

(b) the quantum and value of these two commodities imported during the last 3 months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) The total quantity and value of rice and wheat exported during the period April-December, 1996 is as under:—

Quantity : in lakh MTs

Value : Rs. in Crores

Commodity	Quantity	Value
Rice (Basmati)	3.42	794.11
Rice (Non-Basmati)	16.17	1563.73
Wheat	10.92	679.00

(Source : DGCI&S, CALCUTTA)

(b) No rice was imported during last three months. 4.61 lakh tonnes of wheat has been imported upto 25.02.1997 at an average C&F cost of Rs. 6227/- PMT approximately.

Truck loaded with foodgrains missing in Jammu

922. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether 183 trucks loaded with foodgrains from Jammu to various parts of the Jammu and Kashmir State were missing, as reported by "Hindu" dated 4th January, 1997;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) whether in last seven years 1000 loaded trucks have disappeared;

(d) if so, the results of the same;

(e) whether responsibility has been fixed for this loss; and

(f) the remedial steps taken to ensure that such things do not recur?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes Sir, upto 1993-94 a total of 186 and not 183 trucks as stated in the newspaper report have been reported to be missing.

(b) FCI has taken a number of actions in this regard as follows:

(i) Lodging of FIR with the Police.

(ii) Filing of Civil Suits against the defaulting transporters.